2

IN THE CLAIMS

1-26.   Cancelled.

27.   (Previously presented) A method for applying a gain characteristic derived from an original sampled device to an audio signal comprising the steps of:
storing data representing a plurality of gain characteristics at a plurality of different levels;
repeatedly assessing the amplitude of an input signal;
determining a level of gain characteristic to be applied to the input signal; and
applying the thus determined gain characteristic comprises multiplying the input signal by the thus determined gain characteristic and convolving the results with a stored impulse response.

28.   (Currently amended) A method according to claim 2327 in which the gain characteristic to be applied to an input signal is determined in response to a manual input.

29.   (Previously presented) A method according to claim 27 in which an interpolation between two or more impulse responses is made and applied to the input signal.

30.   (Previously presented) A method according to claim 29 in which a manual input is used to select the impulse responses to be applied.

31.   (Previously presented) A method according to claim 27 in which the gain characteristic corresponds to a gain characteristic of an audio signal processor.

32.   (Previously presented) Apparatus for applying a gain characteristic derived from an original sampled device to an audio signal comprising:
means for storing data representing a plurality of gain characteristics at a plurality of different levels;
means for repeatedly assessing the amplitude of an input signal;

989709.1

means for determining a level of gain characteristic to be applied to the input signal; and

means for applying the thus determined gain characteristic to the input signal by multiplying the input signal by the determined level of gain characteristic and convolving the result with a stored impulse response.

33.   (Previously presented) Apparatus according to claim 32 including a manual input for a gain characteristic to be applied to an input signal.

34.   (Previously presented) Apparatus according to claim 32 including means for interpolating between two or more impulse responses before applying the interpolated response to the input signal.

35.   (Previously presented) Apparatus according to claim 34 including a manual input to select the impulse response to be applied.

36.   (Previously presented) Apparatus according to claim 32 in which the gain characteristic corresponds to a gain characteristic of an audio signal processor.

37.   (Previously presented) A method for applying a gain characteristic to an audio signal comprising the steps of:

storing data representing a plurality of gain characteristics of a reference device at a plurality of different levels;

repeatedly assessing the amplitude of an input signal;

determining a gain characteristic to be applied to the input signal in response to a manual input; and

using the thus determined gain characteristic to retrieve stored data representing said determined gain characteristic and applying said data to the input signal.

989709.1

4   Docket No.: R0346.70027US00

38.   (Previously presented) A method according to claim 37 in which the gain characteristic

corresponds to a gain characteristic of an audio signal processor.

39.   (Previously presented) Apparatus for applying a gain characteristic to an audio signal

comprising:

        means for storing data representing a plurality of gain characteristics of a reference device

at a plurality of different levels;

        means for repeatedly assessing the amplitude of an input signal;

        means for determining a gain characteristic to be applied to the input signal in response to a

manual input; and

        means for using the thus determined gain characteristic to retrieve stored data representing

said determined gain characteristic and applying said data to the input signal.

40.   (Previously presented) Apparatus according to claim 39 in which the gain characteristic

corresponds to a gain characteristic of an audio signal processor.

41-54. (Cancelled)

55.   (Previously presented) A method according to claim 37 wherein the step of storing data

representing a plurality of gain characteristics comprises storing gain characteristics for at least two

reference devices and the step of determining a gain characteristic to be applied to the input signal

includes the step of selecting between the at least two reference devices.

56.   (Previously presented) Apparatus according to claim 39 wherein the means for storing data

representing a plurality of gain characteristics stores gain characteristics for at least two reference

devices and the means for determining a gain characteristic to be applied to the input signal includes

means for selecting between the at least two reference devices.

989709.1